

Message Text

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PAGE 01 DUBLIN 00964 151222Z

42

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 IO-13 OMB-01 /096 W

----- 034030

R 151110Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7928

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL BELFAST

UNCLAS DUBLIN 0964

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, PINT, EI

SUBJECT: IRISH RADIO AND TV CLOSED BY STRIKE.

A LONG-SMOULDERING DISPUTE BETWEEN 30 CARPENTERS AND PAINTERS AND RTE, THE IRISH RADIO AND TELEVISION NETWORK, FORCED THE CLOSING OF RTE MAY 14. NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN AND THE IRISH CONGRESS OF TRADE UNIONS MOVED IN TO SUPPORT THE STRIKE, THUS FORCING ALL UNIONS REPRESENTED AT RTE TO RESPECT THE PICKET LINE.

COMMENT: THE FIRST VICTIM OF THE CLOSE-DOWN IS THE FINE GAEL PARTY'S ANNUAL CONVENTION IN GALWAY THIS WEEKEND. LIKE THEIR AMERICAN PARTY COUNTERPARTS, THE IRISH POLITICAL PARTIES COUNT ON HEAVY TV AND RADIO COVERAGE OF THEIR CONVENTIONS. PARTY SECRETARY JIM SANFEY HAD STAGE-MANAGED THE CONVENTION TO FOCUS PUBLIC ATTENTION ON TWO UPCOMING BI-ELECTIONS FOR VACANT SEATS IN THE DAIL (PARLIAMENT). FINE-GAEL-LABOR VICTORIES IN THESE BI-ELECTIONS WILL GO A LONG WAY TOWARD DEMONSTRATING THAT THE COALITION GOVERNMENT, DESPITE ECONOMIC PROBLEMS BESETTING THE COUNTRY, IS STILL FIRMLY IN THE SADDLE (SEPTTEL).
CURLEY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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